Tims Ford

Sustainability Features

Natural Areas

In recent years, Tims Ford State Park has made an effort to reduce the amount of land within the park that required constant maintenance such as mowing and watering. The park has converted between 25 and 30 acres of land from manicured lawn into native grasses. This transformation not only helps the environment through the reduction of water usage, fertilizers, and exhaust fumes from gaspowered mowers, it also provides a habitat for butterflies, dragonflies and damselflies.

Events and Programs

Tims Ford Environmental Education Association hosts the Annual Birds of Prey Program every September. The program includes a Nature Walk with the State Naturalist, and the LIVE Birds of Prey program, presented by SOAR (Save our American Raptors). This gives visitors a chance for up-close encounters with live eagles, hawks, and owls. In October, the park celebrates Annual Heritage Day. Events include interpretive programs, activities relating to the history of the park and information on the people who lived there prior to the establishment of Tims Ford Reservoir along with bluegrass, country, and gospel music.

Golf Course

The Bear Trace at Tims Ford is one of ten courses that are part of the Tennessee Golf Trail. The course seamlessly combines the game of golf with the park's natural surroundings thanks to a sustainable approach to its management. The course is designated as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary and is also a Groundwater Guardian Green Site. These designations are awarded through the ongoing implementation of various sustainable practices including wildlife and habitat management, chemical use reduction and safety, water conservation, water quality management, and outreach and education.

Park Highlights



- Visited by 900,000 people in 2011
- The 10,700-acre Tims Ford Lake is one of the most picturesque in Tennessee and is regarded as one of the top bass fishing and recreational lakes in the Southeast
- There are over 27 miles of trails, including paved hiking and biking trails that connect all major areas of the park

